

Saturday Gazette.

W.M. P. LYON, Editor and Proprietor.
CHAS. M. DAVIS, Associate Editor.

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TERMS.

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The money must always accompany the subscription. It will be at our risk if enclosed in a separate envelope.

Rates of Advertising moderate. Advertisers will find this a valuable medium.

SPECIAL NOTICES for Saturday evening, for Sunday, or following days, should be left at the Post Office on Thursday to insure timely publication.

TOWN MEETINGS.

THE GOOD OLD TIMES.

A regular old-fashioned town-meeting, in these parts, is a thing of the past. Many of us can remember the lively times attending those gatherings, when Bloomfield, Belleville and Montclair were all one township, and when the rustic inhabitants thereof considered town-meeting days as to be ranked with Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, and a regular election. When the country-people—for we were all rustics then—gathered from the different parts of the township; strings of farm-wagons, with now and then a carriage among them, were hitched to all the rail-fences in the neighborhood. In fair weather, the school-house, which was the authorized place of gathering, could not contain the voters; so an out-door meeting would be organized, and the business transacted in the open air, with the glorious sun shining for hours on the heads of the interested citizens. In such circumstances, every dark deed of corruption or meanness was thoroughly exposed and ventilated.

Before these meetings, all matters of town interest came for discussion. The roads then, as now, attracted particular attention. How many districts there were at any given time, it would now be hard to tell; but no township-politician could hold any influence, unless he knew the bounds of every one of them, the names of every owner, (their name was legion), the condition of the roads, and how much of the tax was worked out. "Worked-out!"

(Signed) GENEVIEVE S. BOUTWELL.

The boys who gathered on the outskirts of the meeting, or pushed their way through under the legs of their elders; and particularly those who sat in front of the crowd, on the ground, on the platform, behind the speaker, or even under the Clerk's table, were learning valuable lessons—lessons that few even of the well-educated, learn in foreign lands. Those boys were unconsciously learning to think freely, to direct meetings to express their thoughts in public. Many a man, eminent in public matters, has taken his first lessons in the American Town-meeting.

The ballot—the highly extolled ballot—did away with much of this. For a long time little was done to remedy the evil. Men seemed to feel that the matter was beyond all help. Lately, however, we have had a substitute, answering almost to the original institution itself. The Town Committee have most wisely called a series of meetings, at which matters of public concern have been thoroughly discussed; and though no legal obligation rests upon the proceedings, the result is, at least, the ballot-box on election day, as well as in our legislative halls.

We trust this meeting has become a precedent; and that at proper times and places, and always with a proper spirit, Bloomfield will hereafter hold it at one of his most valuable and cherished institutions.

WASHINGTON.

PRESIDENT GRANT'S CABINET.—The following nominations for Cabinet officers were sent to the Senate this week and promptly confirmed: William A. Richardson, to be Secretary of the Treasury; Geo. H. Williams, to be Attorney-General; Hamilton Fish, to be Secretary of State; William W. Belknap, to be Secretary of War; John A. J. Creswell, to be Postmaster-General; Columbus Delano, to be Secretary of the Interior; Geo. M. Robeson, to be Secretary of the Navy; John Gorrell, to be Assistant Attorney-General of the United States.

The reason for Mr. Boutwell's resigna-

tion is stated in the following graceful and complimentary correspondence:

WASHINGTON, March 17, 1853.

Sir: Having been elected to the Senate of the United States, by the Legislature of Massachusetts, I tender my resignation of the office of Secretary of the Treasury. In severing my official relations with you it is a great satisfaction to me that on all occasions you have given me full confidence and support in the discharge of my public duties.

In these four years my earlier acquaintance with you has ripened into a most cordial personal friendship, which I am confident will remain unbroken.

I am yours, very truly,

(Signed) GENEVIEVE S. BOUTWELL.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Washington, D. C., March 17, 1853.

Hon. George S. Boutwell:

Dear Sir: In accepting your resignation of the office of Secretary of the Treasury, an office which you have filled for four years with such satisfaction to the

people of the earth; and never revoked

by a distinct proclamation or sanction of God, or The Christ.

The origin of the death penalty is contemporaneous with the creation of man.

It was ordained and solemnly promulgated by God himself in the beginning; repeatedly reaffirmed and ratified by the Almighty Ruler in subsequent communica-

tions with the peoples of the earth; and never revoked

by a distinct proclamation or sanction of God, or The Christ.

It has been received and respected as un-

questioned law in all ages and by all

nations from the beginning down to the

present century. If there has been any

exception to this statement, at any past

period, it is of too insignificant a character

to affect the mawkish sentimentality

respecting hanging of murderers which is

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